

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-03 SS-15 AGR-05 LAB-04 HEW-02

SIL-01 HUD-01 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 COME-00 NAS-01

NSF-01 OPIC-03 FAA-00 ERDA-05 NSC-05 L-03 CPR-01 /073 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IRN:RWBEALES:MP

APPROVED BY NEA S. SOBER

NEA/IRN - C. W. NAAS

----- 129558

R 100100Z FFE 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USIRJC, IR

SUBJECT: ARRANGEMENTS FOR FHWA PERSONNEL

1. FHWA REMAINS CONCERNED THAT ITS CONSULTANTS MAY FIND IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO WORK TO FULL POTENTIAL IN VIEW THEIR UNRESOLVED STATUS AND CONSEQUENT EXASPERATIONS OVER DELAY IN ARRIVAL OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS AND AUTOS.

2. WHEN DR. EZEDINE KAZEMI, CHIEF OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT IN THE IRANIAN FOREIGN OFFICE, WAS IN WASHINGTON IN NOVEMBER 1975 FOR THE CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS, HE MET WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SOBER TO DISCUSS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL SERVING IN IRAN UNDER JOINT COMMISSION PROGRAMS (MEMO OF CONVERSATION PREVIOUSLY SENT YOU.) RESPONDING TO SOBER'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER THE PENDING QUESTION OF PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES FOR U.S. PERSONNEL, DR. KAZEMI SOUGHT TO MINIMIZE THE PROBLEM. HE EMPHASIZED

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THAT THE GOI'S WILLINGNESS TO GRANT TO AMERICAN PERSONNEL  
THOSE PRIVILEGES AND EXEMPTIONS DETAILED IN ITS JULY 14,  
1966 REGULATIONS (AS, HE NOTED, THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN

HAD ALREADY DONE WITH THE FHWA TEAM MEMBERS) WOULD GO A  
LONG WAY TOWARD RESOLVING THE PROBLEM. BOTH KAZEMI AND  
SOBER AGREED THAT THE QUESTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BOTTLE-  
NECKS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN A BROAD SPIRIT OF  
COOPERATION.

3. WE REALIZE THAT EMBASSY HAS BEEN WORKING HARD ON THIS  
PROBLEM, AND WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY'S VIEWS AS TO WHETHER  
A LETTER FROM SOBER TO KAZEMI ALONG LINE BELOW MIGHT BE  
HELPFUL. IF YOU CONCUR, YOU SHOULD DELIVER FOLLOWING  
LETTER TO KAZEMI.

4. DEAR DR. KAZEMI: YOU WILL RECALL THAT DURING YOUR  
RECENT VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN CONNECTION WITH CIVIL AIR  
NEGOTIATIONS, WE DISCUSSED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ARRANGE-  
MENTS FOR AMERICAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO IRAN  
UNDER JOINT COMMISSION PROGRAMS. VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF  
THE USG HAD, IN PARTICULAR, INDICATED SOME UNEASINESS OVER  
SUCH ARRANGEMENTS.

YOU EXPLAINED YOUR GOVERNMENT'S DIFFICULTIES IN EXTENDING  
PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO LARGE NUMBERS OF TECHNICAL  
ADVISERS; YOU NOTED, FURTHER, THAT THE IRANIAN GOVERN-  
MENT'S WILLINGNESS TO EXTEND TO FOREIGN TECHNICAL  
ADVISERS THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES SPECIFIED IN ITS  
REGULATIONS OF 14 JULY 1966--AS HAD RECENTLY BEEN DONE IN  
THE CASE OF MEMBERS OF THE FHWA CONSULTATIVE TEAM--SHOULD  
SOLVE MOST PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO ARISE WITH  
THE FOREIGN EXPERTS.

IT HAS COME TO MY ATTENTION THAT MEMBERS OF THE FHWA TEAM,  
THE FIRST CONTINGENT OF WHICH ARRIVED IN IRAN IN  
OCTOBER 1975, HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO SECURE THEIR YELLOW  
CARDS FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. THIS HAS, IN TURN,  
RESULTED IN DELAY IN CLEARING THEIR HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS  
FROM CUSTOMS AND INABILITY TO OBTAIN THEIR PRIVATELY  
OWNED AUTOMOBILES FROM THE CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES.  
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I RECALL OUR COMMON AGREEMENT AT THE CONCLUSION OF OUR  
MEETING IN WASHINGTON, THAT WE SHOULD APPROACH THE JOINT  
COMMISSION TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS IN THE BROAD  
SPIRIT OF THE DEEP MUTUAL INTEREST OUR TWO COUNTRIES  
SHARE IN SUCH COOPERATION. I KNOW YOU WILL AGREE THAT  
WE ALSO SHARE AN INTEREST IN OVERCOMING ADMINISTRATIVE

MATTERS OF THIS TYPE AS THEY OCCUR. I THEREFORE HOPE YOU  
WILL LOOK INTO THIS QUESTION OF THE FHWA PERSONNEL AND DO  
WHAT YOU CAN TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM. SINCERELY,  
SIDNEY SOBER, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY.  
INGERSOLL

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